



SUMMER 2018
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AMBS window

Grads encouraged to fulfill “other half” of Jesus’ mandate

Palmer Becker, D.Min., told graduates at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary’s (AMBS) 72nd commencement service that as followers of Jesus, they have not only been given a mandate to teach, but also to cast out broken and evil spirits.

“We might define these spirits in different ways and have different methods for casting them out, but the mandate stands,” said Becker — a church leader, pastor, missionary, author and educator from Kitchener, Ontario — during the May 6 service at College Mennonite Church in Goshen, Indiana.

Becker, a 1965 AMBS graduate and recipient of the seminary’s 2018 Alumni Ministry and Service Recognition, spoke on the stories of Jesus freeing a man from an unclean spirit (Mark 1:21-28) and sending his disciples out to teach and to cast out evil spirits (Mark 3:13-15). He noted that exorcisms played a major role in Jesus’ ministry.

“Jesus didn’t go around looking for people who were demon-possessed,” he said, adding that Jesus consistently responded to people according to their needs.

Becker pointed out that while people in many parts of the world still assume the presence of spirits, Western cultures tend to seek solutions to problems through education, research and technology — often neglecting the spiritual aspects of life.

“However, many people, both secular and religious, are realizing that not everything can be explained in natural and materialistic terms,” he observed. “It really comes down to the question, ‘Do we believe in spiritual reality?’”

He noted that the 16th-century Anabaptist movement emphasized the essential role of the Holy Spirit in empowering followers of Jesus to live faithfully.

Becker said he believes in the Holy Spirit and the existence of evil spirits but acknowledged “the great distance that exists in time, culture and context between the ways in which spirits were experienced in New Testament times and how they are experienced today.” He explored ways of understanding the word “spirit,” proposing that an evil or negative spirit is “any settled thought or attitude (continued on p. 2)



Above: Palmer Becker, D.Min., gives the 2018 commencement address. **Top:** The graduates ring small replicas of the bell that is on the seminary campus, which originally hung at the Wadsworth (Ohio) Institute, the first Mennonite institution of higher learning in North America. **Credit:** Jason Bryant

STAY IN TOUCH

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that is contrary to the spirit of God.”

How then does one cast out evil or unclean spirits? Becker named three methods — therapy and counseling by trained professionals; exorcism; and an approach that “emphasizes listening and the caring presence of compassionate people.” He shared three examples from his ministry.

He also shared that the Anabaptist tradition offers an infrastructure for fulfilling Jesus’ mandate through three core values: “Jesus is the center of our

faith; community is the center of our life; and reconciliation is the center of our work.”

Following the conferring of degrees, **Rachel Miller Jacobs**, D.Min., Associate Professor of Congregational Formation, presented the charge to the graduates, first drawing on Becker’s message to bind any powers contrary to God — “the spirits that impair hearing, constrict imagining, shrivel trusting, wilt believing” — and then encouraging the graduates to “inhale God’s own Holy

Spirit” and let it power their ministry. The class responded with a litany that included the refrain, “We breathe in,” and sang together, “I bind my heart this tide.”

The commencement service also included commendations for **Lois Y. Barrett**, Ph.D., Professor of Theology and Anabaptist Studies; and **Rebecca Slough**, Ph.D., Vice President and Academic Dean. They are retiring on June 30. • — *Annette Brill Bergstresser*

2018 COMMENCEMENT

Twenty-one graduates honored

The 2018 AMBS commencement service took place on May 6 at College Mennonite Church in Goshen, Indiana. Each graduate received one of the following degrees and certificates.

MDiv	Master of Divinity
MACF	Master of Arts in Christian Formation
MAPS	Master of Arts: Peace Studies
Certificate	Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies

* Candidates who have six or fewer credits left to complete toward their degree

► Candidates who completed a portion of their degree at a distance through the MDiv Connect program

***Jeff Boehr** (Bluffton, Ohio). MACF: *Christian Spirituality*. Jeff is seeking an assignment in retirement community pastoral care or chaplaincy or in congregational pastoral work. He is a member of First Mennonite Church in Bluffton

and has been attending Southside Fellowship in Elkhart. He and his wife, Beth, have two children.

Matthew Cordella-Bontrager (Goshen, Indiana). MDiv: *Theological Studies: History, Theology and Ethics*. Matthew and his wife, Rachel, are expecting a baby in July and plan to serve in Kosovo as missionaries with Virginia Mennonite Missions. He is a member of Yellow Creek Mennonite Church in Goshen.



From left: Jeff Boehr, Matthew Cordella-Bontrager, Michelle Curtis, Ruby N. Fair-Miller, Janette Joy Lyndaker Gallagher, Beth Gerig. Not pictured: Stanley Paul Epp.

2018 COMMENCEMENT

***Michelle Curtis** (Lansdale, Pennsylvania). *MDiv: Pastoral Ministry*. Michelle plans to marry Jacob Liechty on June 16. She anticipates remaining in the AMBS community for a year while Jacob finishes his Master of Divinity; they then intend to pursue a co-pastoring assignment. Michelle is a member of Souderton (Pennsylvania) Mennonite Church and has been attending Belmont Mennonite Church in Elkhart.

Stanley Paul Epp (Newton, Kansas). *Certificate*. Stanley's future plans are to follow wherever Jesus leads. He is a member of First Mennonite Church of Newton and attends Hillsboro (Kansas) Mennonite Brethren Church. Stanley is married to Esther Mae Epp and has four children.

***Ruby N. Fair-Miller** (South Bend, Indiana). *MACF: Public Ministries*. Sister Ruby plans to pursue certification in healthcare chaplaincy to provide pastoral/spiritual care and minister God's grace to the caregivers of people diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and dementia. She is a member of New Life Fellowship Ministry in South Bend.

* › **Janette Joy Lyndaker Gallagher** (Corning, New York). *MDiv: Pastoral Ministry*. Janette is pursuing a pastoral ministry assignment. She is a member of Community Mennonite Fellowship in Corning. She is married to Dan Gallagher and has one daughter and two stepsons, one of whom is deceased.

***Beth Gerig** (Mishawaka, Indiana). *MDiv: Pastoral Care and Counseling*. Beth plans to continue in her part-time staff position at Kern Road Mennonite Church in South Bend, Indiana, and to pursue chaplaincy work in various healthcare settings. She and her husband, Kevin, have four children.

Sophia Marie Lapp Jost (Goshen, Indiana). *MDiv: Pastoral Ministry*. Sophie and her husband, David, plan to serve overseas. She is a member of College Mennonite Church in Goshen.

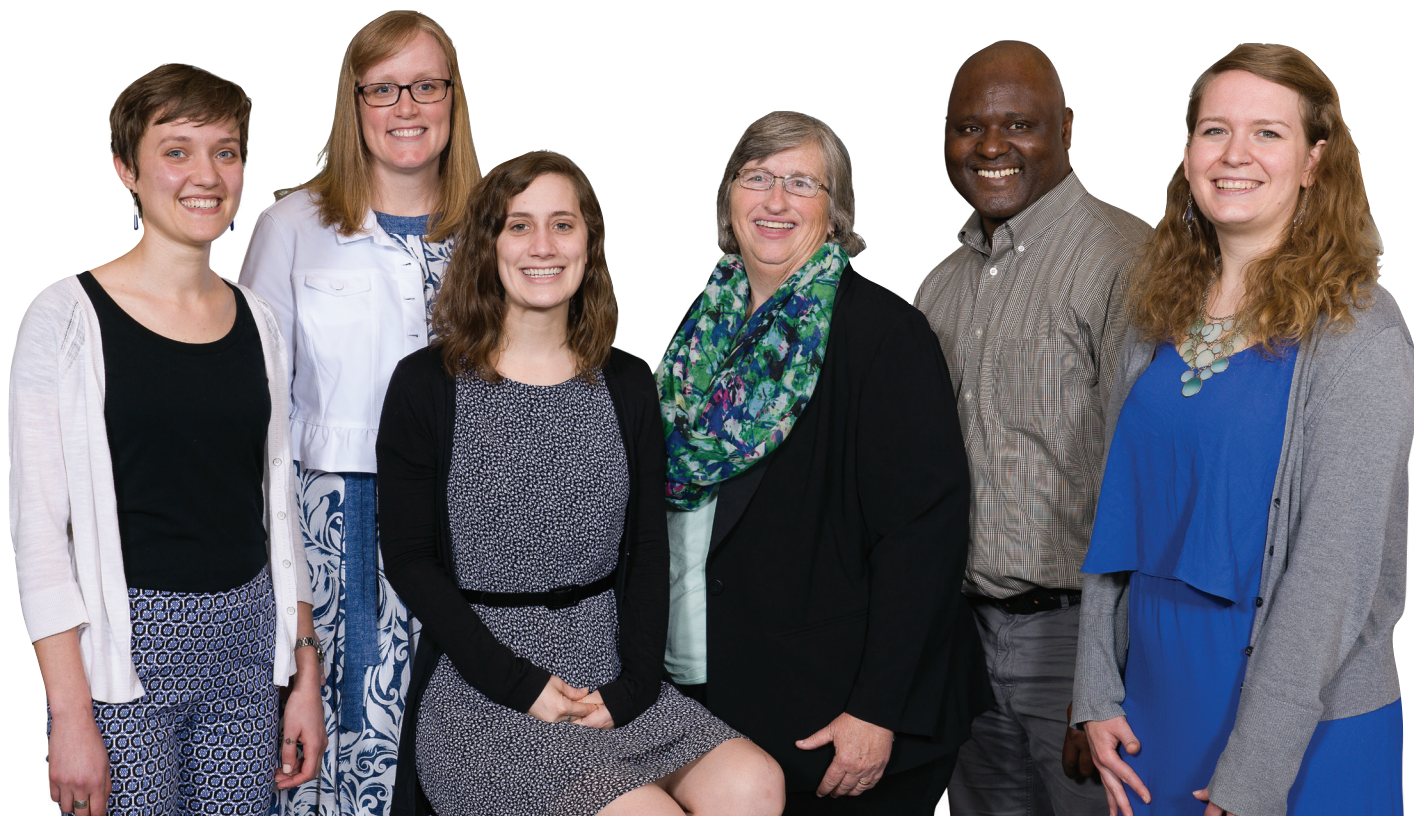
* › **Rachelle Luitjens** (Olds, Iowa). *MDiv: Pastoral Care and Counseling*. Rachelle will continue to serve as a pastor at Sugar Creek Mennonite Church in Wayland, Iowa. She and her husband, Nathan, have three sons.

Mariah Kate Martin (Glenwood Springs, Colorado). *MDiv: Pastoral Ministry*. Mariah will marry Nick Bouwman in July and is pursuing a pastoral ministry assignment. She is a member of Defiance Church in Glenwood Springs and attends Faith Mennonite Church in Goshen, Indiana.

Karen Diane Fagan Mascho (Gladewater, Texas). *Certificate*. Karen is pursuing a pastoral ministry assignment and/or options for church planting. She is a member of Joy Mennonite Church in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Karen is recently widowed; she was married to Steve Mascho, Sr., for 34 years and has four children.

› **Ronald Lizwe Moyo** (Hesston, Kansas). *MDiv: Pastoral Ministry*. Ron anticipates continuing to serve Whitestone Mennonite Church in Hesston as Outreach Pastor. He and his wife, Sue, have two children.

* › **Sarah A. Schlegel** (Kokomo, Indiana). *MDiv: Pastoral Ministry*. Sarah will continue as a pastor at Howard-Miami Mennonite Church in Kokomo. She and her husband, Ben, have two sons.



From left: Sophia Marie Lapp Jost, Rachelle Luitjens, Mariah Kate Martin, Karen Diane Fagan Mascho, Ronald Lizwe Moyo, Julia Schmidt. Not pictured: Sarah A. Schlegel.

2018 COMMENCEMENT

Julia Schmidt (Goshen, Indiana). *MDiv: Theological Studies: Peace Studies.* Julia is pursuing work in faith-based community organizing with a focus on immigrant justice in Elkhart County, Indiana, and is also engaged to be married to Jon Shetler. She is a member of Southside Fellowship in Elkhart.

Kay J. Schroeder (Newton, Kansas). *MACF: Worship.* Kay anticipates continuing in her current position as Pastor of Worship and Visitation at First Mennonite Church in Newton. She and her husband, Joel R. Schroeder, have two sons.

***Dylan David Stillman** (Winona Lake, Indiana). *MDiv: Pastoral Care and Counseling.* Dylan plans to pursue education with the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, seeking placement as a residency candidate, and to continue ministering within the Brethren in Christ Church. He is a member of Nappanee (Indiana) Brethren in Christ Church and is married to Megan Stillman.

Jonah Yang (Cottage Grove, Minnesota). *MACF: Public Ministries.* Jonah would like to write Anabaptist Christian historical and theological educational materials for Hmong Mennonites and other people. He anticipates continuing his mission to Thailand, Laos and Vietnam to share more about the Mennonite Confession of Faith and Anabaptist history and practice. Jonah is a member of Emmanuel Mennonite Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He is married to Memee Yang, and they have seven children.

Daniel L. Yoder (Goshen, Indiana). *Certificate.* Daniel plans to continue as Pastor of Christian Formation for Youth at College Mennonite Church in Goshen. He and his wife, Talashia Keim Yoder, have two sons.

***Sharon Witmer Yoder** (Elkhart, Indiana). *MDiv: Pastoral Ministry.* Sharon plans to continue as Co-pastor at Olive Mennonite Church in Elkhart through December 2018; she has served there with her husband, Kevin,

since 2007. Her plans after December are unknown. She and Kevin have three married daughters and one granddaughter.

***Rebekah York** (Bucharest, Romania). *MAPS.* Rebekah plans to explore possible work positions for next year and — after completing a couple of fellowships this summer — to move to Goshen, Indiana. There she plans to continue to reflect on concepts she has learned at seminary and to work with a local organization. Rebekah is a member of Belmont Mennonite Church in Elkhart.

***Miriam Zehr** (Orrville, Ohio). *MACF: Christian Spirituality.* Miriam plans to continue working as Associate Pastor of Worship and Education at Oak Grove Mennonite Church in Smithville, Ohio. She is married to Douglas Zehr, and they have three children. ●



From left: Kay J. Schroeder, Jonah Yang, Sharon Witmer Yoder, Rebekah York, Miriam Zehr. Not pictured: Dylan David Stillman, Daniel L. Yoder. **Graduate photos credit:** Steve Echols



Profile of the 2018 graduates

This year's graduates are from Colorado, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and Romania. Two graduates originally came to the U.S. as refugees, fleeing war in their home countries of Laos and Zimbabwe.

Eighteen of the graduates are affiliated with Mennonite Church USA; one with the Evana Network; one with the Brethren in Christ U.S.; and one with the U.S. Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches. One is nondenominational.

This year's graduating class was the first to include students who did all the

work toward their Master of Divinity at a distance — coming to campus twice a year for intensive classes and doing the rest of their coursework online through the seminary's MDiv Connect program, which began in 2013.

Four graduates are the daughters of AMBS alumni: **Janette Lyndaker Gallagher's** late father, **Norman J. Lyndaker**, earned an MDiv in 1971; **Sophie Lapp Jost's** father, **John F. Lapp**, earned a Master of Arts: Theological Studies (MATS) in 1988; **Mariah Martin's** father, **Lauren Martin**, earned an MDiv in 1990; and **Julia Schmidt's** father, **Dennis Schmidt**, earned an MDiv in 1994. **Julia Schmidt's** mother, **Dianne Schmidt**, is a current AMBS student. **Sophie Lapp Jost's** grandparents are also graduates: **Lois Shenk Zehr** received an MDiv in 1994, and **Michael Zehr** received a MATS in 1994.

As a gift to the seminary — an annual tradition — this year's class commissioned **Sophie Lapp Jost** (MDiv 2018) to create a Fraktur (traditional folk artwork) of Ephesians 3:16-21, and **Steve Thomas** (MDiv 1988) and his son **Matt Thomas** (a former AMBS maintenance assistant) to create a wooden cross and base for use in worship services at the seminary. •

GRADUATES BY DEGREE

- 12 Master of Divinity
- 5 Master of Arts in Christian Formation
- 1 Master of Arts: Peace Studies
- 3 Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies (represents the equivalent of one year of study)

GRADUATES BY THE NUMBERS

- 14 women
- 7 men
- 15 serving as pastors or seeking a pastoral or chaplaincy assignment
- 4 pursuing mission or service work
- 1 seeking work in faith-based community organizing
- 11 served as paid pastors or congregational staff members while earning their degrees

Left: Matthew Cordella-Bontrager (MDiv 2018) receives his bell and degree from President Sara Wenger Shenk at commencement. Credit: Jason Bryant

Graduates receive awards

Each year, AMBS faculty members present awards to selected graduates at the Dean's Breakfast, which is held the day before commencement. This year's recipients are:

- **Matthew Cordella-Bontrager:** Cornelius J. Dyck Award for Excellence in Historical Studies
- **Michelle Curtis:** Millard Lind Award for Excellence in Biblical Interpretation
- **Janette Joy Lyndaker Gallagher:** Award for Excellence in Pastoral Ministry
- **Beth Gerig:** Award for Excellence in Pastoral Care and Counseling
- **Sophia Marie Lapp Jost:** Award for Excellence in Preaching
- **Rachelle Luitjens:** Marlin E. Miller Award for Excellence in Theological Studies

- **Sarah A. Schlegel:** Award for Excellence in Christian Formation
- **Julia Schmidt:** Award for Excellence in Peace Studies, Heart of the Community Award
- **Jonah Yang:** Award for Excellence in Missional Leadership
- **Rebekah York:** Award for Excellence in Missional Leadership

Graduates also received a one-year print subscription to *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology* from the Institute of Mennonite Studies and access to the ATLASerials for Alum database from the AMBS Library. The Admissions Team presented each graduate with a "golden ticket" — good for one waived application fee — to share with someone considering studying at AMBS. •



Rachelle Luitjens (at right) receives an award from Lois Y. Barrett, Ph.D., retiring Professor of Theology and Anabaptist Studies. Credit: Jason Bryant

AMBS board appoints academic dean, Bible faculty

The AMBS Board of Directors has appointed **Beverly Lapp**, Ed.D., of Goshen, Indiana, as the seminary's new Vice President and Academic Dean, and **Drew J. Strait**, Ph.D., of Washington, D.C., as Assistant Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins, beginning July 1, 2018. Both appointments took place during the board's April 19–21, 2018, meeting in Elkhart.

Lapp succeeds **Rebecca Slough**, Ph.D., who is retiring June 30 (see p. 7). She has an Ed.D. from Columbia University Teachers College in New York City; an M.M. in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, New Jersey; and a B.A. in Music from Goshen College.



Beverly Lapp
Credit: Brian Yoder Schlabach (Goshen College)

An active church musician, Lapp has been on the Goshen College faculty for 23 years, serving as Professor of Music, Core Curriculum Director and Music Department Chair. Lapp developed a Music for Social Change concentration and helped develop a Musical Theater minor, and she designed and oversaw a recruitment plan that significantly increased new music student enrollment. As Core Curriculum Director, she gave leadership to the 38-credit-hour general education program that launched in 2012.

"Colleagues with whom Dr. Lapp has collaborated at Goshen College and other institutions of higher learning were unequivocally enthusiastic about her collaborative leadership style, proven administrative skills, interdisciplinary curricular work, intercultural competence, command of data to inform decisions, and passion for transformative educational processes," said **Sara Wenger Shenk**, Ed.D., AMBS President and search committee chair. "In a time of widespread longing for transformative spiritual connections, Dr. Lapp's vision for far-reaching theological education deeply rooted in the Christian gospel is compelling and timely. I am thrilled with her strong sense of rightness about stepping up to serve in academic leadership at AMBS."

Strait is taking on his position as other Bible Department faculty are retiring; **Mary Schertz**, Ph.D., Professor of New Testament, retired in June 2017; and **Ben Ollenburger**, Ph.D., Professor of Biblical Theology, will retire in December 2018.

"Dr. Strait will bring a passion for teaching, ministry and scholarship to his work at AMBS," said Slough, chair of the search committee. "His formation in the United Methodist Church, Mennonite Church USA and in evangelical communities provides an ecumenical grounding for his Anabaptist commitments. Drew's love for the Bible along with his personal mission to 'detribalize' the church will further the mission of AMBS."

Strait earned a Ph.D. from the University of Pretoria, South Africa,

focusing on New Testament and Early Christian Literature; an A.M.R.S. in New Testament from the University of Chicago Divinity School; an M.A. in New Testament from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Illinois; and a B.A. in Religion from Whitworth University in Spokane, Washington, with minors in Philosophy, Greek and Hebrew. He currently teaches New Testament at St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute in



Drew Strait
Photo provided

Baltimore, Maryland, and has also taught at St. Mary's Seminary and University in Baltimore; Northern Seminary in Lisle, Illinois; and North Park University and Theological Seminary in Chicago. His teaching interests include Luke–Acts, resistance literature in early Judaism/Christianity, political theology, racial justice and the mission of God, early Christian preaching, and early Christian negotiation of the religions of the Roman Empire. He has published *Hidden Criticism of the Angry Tyrant in Early Judaism and the Acts of the Apostles* (Fortress Academic, 2018).

Strait will also bring experiences of ministering in various multicultural contexts to his teaching at AMBS.

● — *Annette Brill Bergstresser*

AMBS Window Summer 2018 Volume 28 Issue 3

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Editors: **Annette Brill Bergstresser**,
Melissa Troyer
Designer: **Nekeisha Alayna Alexis**

3003 Benham Avenue,
Elkhart, IN 46517
marketing@ambs.edu



A seminary of
Mennonite Church USA and
Mennonite Church Canada

Vision now available online

Vision: *A Journal for Church and Theology* is now available online — for free! Beginning with the Spring 2018 issue on "The church and young adults," users can select individual articles or open the entire issue. Back issues can also be viewed as full issues.

Regarding the Spring 2018 issue, editors **Irma Fast Dueck**, Th.D., and **Peter J.H. Epp**, both of Canadian Mennonite University (CMU) in Winnipeg, Manitoba, observe, "The church throughout history has wrestled with how it can remain relevant to young adults. As we shaped this issue, we assumed that the concerns young adults

raise about the church are not just issues related to the experience of this generation but connect to the whole church and what it means to be the body of Christ in our context. We are pleased to offer the insights of young adults, pastors and scholars as they reflect on Scripture, research and their experience — for our edification and the church's renewal."

Vision's purpose is to encourage theological reflection on the identity, mission and practices of the church from an Anabaptist-Mennonite perspective. It is published twice a year by AMBS's Institute of Mennonite Studies and CMU's Centre for Faith and Life. Plans

Faculty and staff transitions at AMBS

The AMBS learning community is saying farewell to several of its long-time members this summer.

Rebecca Slough*, Ph.D., is retiring June 30 after 11 years as Vice President and Academic Dean and 20 years on the faculty, teaching in worship and the arts, Christian formation and field education. She is known throughout the church for her gifts in worship, music and the arts. In the classroom, she helps students discover new insights by testing artistic responses to biblical texts.

Slough is a member of the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) Chief Academic Officers Advisory Committee and has co-led two Deans Colloquies for the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion. She has written for academic journals such as *Teaching Theology and Religion*, *Religious Studies Review* and *Mennonite Quarterly Review*, and for publications of AMBS's Institute of Mennonite Studies.

"Rebecca is, above all, a superb dean, dearly loved by students, faculty and colleagues alike," said **Sara Wenger Shenk**, President. "She is a master of the ebb and flow of AMBS's academic river of life, and we are going to miss her great sense of balance, good humor, practiced wisdom, broad networking with other deans and theological school leaders, and her ability to sound the theological depths that keep us wondrously afloat."

Slough will continue as Association of Theological Schools Self-Study Director through the ATS accreditation visit in February, and as Affiliate Faculty.

Lois Y. Barrett*, Ph.D., Professor of Theology and Anabaptist Studies, is retiring June 30. A resident of Wichita, Kansas, she has served as Director of the AMBS–Great Plains

Extension (2002–13) and as a professor (2002–18), teaching courses in Anabaptist history and theology; mission church theology; Christian spirituality, history and theology; discerning and knowing; and Anabaptist understandings of the church. She also developed the *Seminario Bíblico Anabautista* (Anabaptist Biblical Seminary) program for Spanish-speaking pastors in Western District Conference with a grant from Lilly Endowment Inc.

"Lois' interests in theology, history and mission make her a natural interdisciplinary teacher and scholar," said Slough. In April, the AMBS board expressed appreciation for Barrett's contributions, affirming her leadership, scholarship, love of teaching and love for the church.

She anticipates continuing her theological research on processes of knowing and discernment and will continue to serve as Affiliate Faculty.

Missy Kauffman Schrock, M.B.A., Director of Advancement, is concluding her time at AMBS in June after eight years. She has served as the primary leader for advancement strategy and has managed the Advancement Team. As part of her M.B.A. capstone project, she spearheaded the installation of a 60kW solar array on AMBS's campus in 2017.

Wenger Shenk said Kauffman Schrock has made "an invaluable and inspiring contribution to AMBS's mission" and praised her "fun-loving, can-do attitude" and ability to pick up the spirits

of her crew.

Paula Killough*, M.Div., former Senior Executive for Advancement for Mennonite Mission Network in Elkhart, took on the role of Interim Director of Advancement in mid-June.

Ken Hawkley*, M.Div., is ending his full-time role as Senior Associate Director of Advancement on June 30 and will serve quarter time as Advancement Associate for Canada.

Barb Nelson Gingerich*, A.M. in Divinity, Managing Editor for the Institute of Mennonite Studies (IMS), is retiring Aug. 30. Since beginning in her role in 1999, she has edited, formatted and/or overseen the production of 30 books; 36 issues of *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology*; and 15 selected volumes in various IMS series. She has also helped host conferences and other IMS-sponsored events.

"Barb does an administrative job with admirable efficiency and precision, yet brings to that job a warm personality, a droll sense of humor and broad theological and cultural understanding — and that's not even to mention her abilities as a liturgist, prayer leader and event host!" said **Jamie Pitts**, Ph.D., IMS Director. • —AMBS staff

*Denotes AMBS graduate



Rebecca Slough, Lois Y. Barrett, Missy Kauffman Schrock and Barb Nelson Gingerich

are to continue to offer print subscriptions for the time being. The theme for the Fall 2018 issue will be "Gifts of a global church," edited by **Jamie Pitts**, Ph.D.

Access the free issues, sign up to be notified when a new issue is available, or learn more: mennovision.org •

Photo: AMBS faculty and students celebrated the redesign of *Vision* at a special break in December: (l. to r.) Scott Litwiller, Sungbin Kim, Janna Hunter-Bowman, Bekah York and Michelle Curtis. **Credit:** Nekeisha Alayna Alexis



AMBS SNAPSHOTS

Graduates reflect on their seminary experiences

Janette Joy Lyndaker Gallagher

(MDiv Connect), Corning, New York: "In addition to the strong academic education I received in the MDiv Connect program, AMBS

fostered an atmosphere that was rich in relationships. Professors and staff were consistently concerned with the whole person and created an atmosphere conducive to learning, growing spiritually and connecting with others."



Mariah Kate Martin

(MDiv Campus), Glenwood Springs, Colorado: "Leaving AMBS, I will carry with me and treasure the opportunities the seminary gave me to find my voice. I was supported and encouraged to listen well, speak mindfully and to embrace the simple power of sitting with others in their joys and sorrows."



meaningful has been my interactions with professors. The probing questions they asked, their willingness to share openly from their own experiences, and their supportive affirmations all contributed to my learning and growth as a person and pastor."



Beth Gerig

(MDiv Campus), Mishawaka, Indiana: "The opportunities to study the extensive history of the biblical canon and to delve deeply into various areas of Scripture

have cultivated a profound respect for and engagement with the Bible in ways I could never have imagined."



Kay J. Schroeder (MACF), Newton, Kansas: "The area of my seminary experience that has been particularly

Ronald Lizwe Moyo

(MDiv Connect), Hesston, Kansas: "The ability to be informed by my academic studies and by my classmates who are coming from different cultural backgrounds has been an amazing journey."



Daniel L. Yoder

(Certificate), Goshen, Indiana: "AMBS has helped me appreciate how contextualized ministry is and how much joy and awe that can bring. All humans are created

in the image of God and bring their own experiences, theological history, physical abilities, ways of spiritual engagement, stage of faith formation, emotional health, phase of life ... and all of this is a unique reflection of one element of the vastness of God." •

LOOKING FORWARD

Journey: A Missional Leadership Development Program

Explore your call to ministry in this 2-1/2-year distance-friendly program that features a five-unit online curriculum, biweekly mentor-mentee meetings and one visit to the AMBS region per year. Register by Aug. 7.

• ambs.edu/journey

Spiritual Guidance Seminars

Prepare for a ministry of spiritual direction through this two-part supervised program, which will be offered on campus in 2018–19. Level 1 begins in September and Level 2 in October. Instructor: Dan Schrock, D. Min.

• ambs.edu/seminars

Online Anabaptist Short Courses (noncredit)

Exploring Anabaptist History and Theology, with Jamie Pitts, Ph.D.: Sept. 12 – Oct. 23

Exploring Peace and Justice in the Bible, with Safwat Marzouk, Ph.D., and Drew Strait, Ph.D.: Oct. 23 – Dec. 11

• ambs.edu/shortcourses

Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies

Develop a plan of study that matches your interests in this 27-credit-hour program, which can be done fully online or with a combination of online, hybrid and on-campus courses. Ideal for international church leaders, bivocational pastors or other professionals.

• ambs.edu/graduatecertificate

David B. Miller available to teach

Invite David B. Miller, D.Min., an AMBS traveling teacher, to your area to preach or teach on topics such as holistic witness; Christian leadership; the missional church; healthy boundaries; and peace, justice and nonviolence. One-on-one pastoral consultations are also available.

• ambs.edu/workshops

Take a for-credit course this fall!

Hybrid courses (online but requiring one week on campus: Aug. 20–25) include Isaiah and Family Spirituality.

Fully online courses include Christian Attitudes Toward War, Peace and Revolution; Christian Theology 1; and Spiritual Practices: Prayer and Scripture.

On-campus courses are also available. Nonadmitted students get 50 percent off their first course!

• ambs.edu/onecourse

Rooted and Grounded: A Conference on Land and Christian Discipleship: Sept. 27–29, 2018

Imagine and embody alternative ways of relating to the land that cultivate *shalom* among human beings, the rest of creation and God. This event will weave together worship, theology, biblical study and praxis. Keynote speakers: Valerie Bridgeman, Karenna Gore and Randy Woodley. Hosted at AMBS.

• ambs.edu/rootedandgrounded •